

**NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF
DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the City of Carlsbad has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) in accordance with the City of Carlsbad Environmental Protection Ordinance (Chapter 19.04 of the Carlsbad Municipal Code) for the Buena Vista Creek Channel Maintenance Project (EIR 02-03(A)). The proposed project is located along Buena Vista Creek between the South Vista Way bridge and the Jefferson Street bridge located within the cities of Carlsbad and Oceanside, California. The area that is currently covered under the Buena Vista Creek Channel Maintenance Project 2003 Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR; SCH #2002101015) is approximately 2,750 feet in length, extending from the South Vista Way bridge to the coastal zone boundary east of the Jefferson Street bridge approximately 945 feet. In addition to this area, the proposed project would also incorporate the area along Buena Vista Creek between the Jefferson Street Bridge and the coastal zone boundary. The Draft SEIR is on file with the City of Carlsbad Planning Division, located at 1635 Faraday Avenue, Carlsbad CA 92008 and copies of the Draft SEIR are available at: (1) City Clerk's Office, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive; (2) Carlsbad Main Library, 1775 Dove Lane; and (3) Georgina Cole Library, 1250 Carlsbad Village Drive, Oceanside Public Library, 330 North Coast Highway; and the City of Carlsbad website at:

www.carlsbadca.gov/services/departments/planning/Pages/agendas-minutes-and-notice.aspx (look under "Notice of Completion" for a link to "EIR 02-03(A)"). The Draft SEIR will be available for public review and comment from February 25, 2013 until April 11, 2013.

The City would like to continue to conduct maintenance and flood control activities within Buena Vista Creek as authorized under a current California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA). The proposed project evaluated in the SEIR would also implement flood control activities in areas not previously considered in the 2003 PEIR, including adding the area east of the Jefferson Street Bridge, which is within the coastal zone.

The City's current channel maintenance program extends from 2003 for a 10-year period, through 2013. The flood control maintenance would protect the existing Maintenance District properties from a 100-year storm event. Maintenance is proposed to continue over a 20-year period. The City is proposing to continue to remove vegetation in the same manner as currently being performed under the Streambed Alteration Agreement. This method is by hand within the northern half of the channel, which is dominated primarily by freshwater marsh. This method minimizes impacts to the southern willow scrub growing along the southern half of the channel. The vegetation would be removed in the northern half of the channel over a period of five years: one fifth of the northern half of the channel would be removed by hand down to ground level every year. Thus, each year one-tenth of the vegetation in the channel project site would be removed. Maintenance vehicles will use the existing access road that runs



parallel to the northern bank of the channel. All maintenance activities would occur outside of the nesting bird season, which extends from March 15 through September 15, and are scheduled to commence in 2014.

The SEIR provides a comprehensive consideration of potential environmental effects, including cumulative impacts, mitigation measures, and alternatives. Significant effects with respect to biological resources and hydrology and water quality have been identified in the SEIR. However, all impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels under CEQA through implementation of the mitigation measures identified in the SEIR. No significant, unmitigable impacts associated with implementation of the project have been identified.

Pursuant to Section 15204 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, in reviewing draft EIRs, persons and public agencies should focus on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing the possible impacts on the environment and ways in which the significant effects of the project might be avoided or mitigated. Comments are most helpful when they suggest additional specific alternatives or mitigation measures that would provide better ways to avoid or mitigate the significant environmental effects. All comments on the Draft SEIR must be submitted in writing to the following City of Carlsbad contact: Barbara Kennedy, Carlsbad Planning Division; 1635 Faraday Avenue; Carlsbad, CA 92008 or by email at barbara.kennedy@carlsbadca.gov.

CASE NO.:	EIR 02-03(A)
CASE NAME:	Buena Vista Creek Maintenance Project
PUBLISH DATE:	February 25, 2013